



**EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT
and
CALL FOR PAPERS**

**66th Highway Geology Symposium
Sturbridge, Massachusetts
September 14 to 17, 2015**

The 66th Annual Highway Geology Symposium (HGS) will be held September 14 to 17, 2015 at the **Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center in Sturbridge, Massachusetts**. This year's host for the Highway Geology Symposium is the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. There will be technical sessions along with industry sponsors and exhibitors. Mark your calendars now!

Event Schedule

Monday, September 14	Afternoon	TRB Session AFP10 Engineering Geology
	Evening	Registration and Welcome Reception
Tuesday, September 15	Full Day	Technical Session
	Full Day	Guest Field Trip: Old Sturbridge Village
Wednesday, September 16	Full Day	Field Trip: Berkshires
	Evening	Banquet
Thursday, September 17	Morning	Technical Sessions

Call for Abstracts

The review team for Technical Programs invites papers on landslides, retaining structures, soil and rock slope design, foundations, karst terrain, instrumentation, rockfalls, rock slope stabilization, geosynthetics, risk and management systems, ground improvement, and geological and geotechnical innovations. Papers on subjects concerning highway related geological and geotechnical problems and the solutions developed to address them are also of interest. Those papers that focus on practical solutions will be given first consideration and will be considered on a first come basis. The deadline for submission of the 200-250 word abstract is **March 2, 2015**. Please check the Highway Geologic Symposium website for any updates at: <http://www.highwaygeologysymposium.org/>

Abstracts may be submitted by email to:

E-mail: jdean@odot.org

Please include the name, address, phone number, and e-mail address of all authors. Abstracts and papers should be submitted electronically in MS word, Times New Roman, 12 point, double-spaced, and left justified. Those who submit papers will be notified of acceptance by **March 16, 2015**. Final papers should be 20 pages or less. An electronic copy of accepted papers must be received by **May 18, 2015**, to be included in the symposium proceedings, which will be in electronic format only.

Calling All Young Authors

The Highway Geology Symposium has existed for over 64 years and over the years has had much participation by “Young Authors”. Young Authors are defined as a participant of the age of 35 years or younger in the year of the Symposium. This participation by our younger professionals has been fabulous and is a true benefit to the Symposium and the Mission of HGS. HGS is taking participation of Young Authors to another level by offering a competition with both financial, registration, and award recognition. This will be an annual and perpetual award with up to three awards presented. We are very excited about this new opportunity for participation by Young Authors and we encourage you to submit your paper and to present your work at the Symposium. HGS is all about sharing our geologic technical experiences and we look forward to hearing about and learning from them. Pay very close attention to the “Call for Abstracts” in this announcement for details and deadlines for submittal.

Hotel Reservations

The Symposium will be held at the **Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center in Sturbridge, Massachusetts**. The group rate is \$106.00 for a standard room (plus tax). For reservations, contact:

Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center

366 Main Street

Sturbridge, MA 01566

(508) 347-7393

www.sturbridgehosthotel.com

To obtain special government rates specify that you are attending the Highway Geology Symposium. ***Please make reservations no later than August 15, 2015, to receive the reduced rate.*** If you have problems obtaining reservations, please notify Pete Ingraham at Golder Associates, via e-mail at pingraham@golder.com or by phone at (603) 668-0880.

Immerse yourself in History: Old Sturbridge Village

Sturbridge, Massachusetts, located in the center of the state, was founded at the confluence of the main east-west and north-south roads along the Connecticut border in Massachusetts. These routes are followed today by I-84, which stretches south to Hartford toward New York, and the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), which spans the state from east to west.

Sturbridge, Massachusetts is known across New England for Old Sturbridge Village, the largest outdoor history museum in the Northeast where you can step back into the 1830s. At this reconstructed New England settlement sheep, not machines, trim the grass on the village green, and the general store is stocked with just those items a 19th-century shopper would have expected. The purpose is to show rural America turning into industrial America.



Symposium Organization

The Highway Geology Symposium was organized in 1950 to foster better understanding and closer cooperation between geologists and civil engineers in the highway industry. Since 1962, the Symposium has been hosted in western and eastern states on alternating years.

The Highway Geology Symposium has no central headquarters, annual dues, or formal membership requirements. The governing body is a steering committee composed of approximately 20 engineering geologists and geotechnical engineers from state and federal agencies, universities, private-sector companies, and consulting firms throughout the United States and Canada. Information about the Highway Geology Symposium Organization may be viewed at <http://www.highwaygeologysymposium.org/>.

Updated information about the 66th HGS will be posted on the HGS website as it becomes available.